



FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

IN REPLYING, ADDRESS THE

The Research Laboratory,
411 E. 69th St., New York 21, N. Y.

December 8, 1948.

Dr. Joshua Lederberg,
The University of Wisconsin,
College of Agriculture,
Department of Genetics,
Madison 6, Wisconsin.

Dear Jesh:

I have not yet heard from the JACS, but have been informed by Brand that our letters have been accepted and are apparently within the 500 word limit imposed by the JACS. I am revising mine slightly, since it was not originally prepared for the JACS. Brand suggested that I ought to let you know immediately of this acceptance, as well as the fact that you might also further revise yours if you so desire.

Dr. Brand is also planning to suggest to Dr. Lamb that a footnote be added by the Editor stating that these two papers had been submitted about a month previously to another journal. This is a plan which Brand cooked up at lunch with Dr. Heidelberger and Phillip Smith at Columbia. The purpose would obviously be to "punish" the JBC for editorial behavior which they are convinced could not have been arrived at on an objective and completely non-personal basis. The window-dressing for the proposition would be some concern on my part over the question of international priority. While I would not be willing to initiate any such request to Dr. Lamb, I am willing to play ball to the extent of letting Brand quote me as being slightly concerned. While I cannot summon up quite as vindictive a feeling against the JBC as Brand has, this does seem to me to be a legitimate act if he wants to take the trouble to initiate it. I trust you won't object; if you do prefer not to have any such editorial footnote added, a letter to Dr. Lamb would take care of the matter.

The enclosed copy of a letter to Dr. Lamb is self-explanatory. At Brand's suggestion I have ordered a larger number of reprints than I would have considered necessary, and, as you see, am going to try to get the whole set paid for by the Public Health Service. If this goes through I will send half of them to you; if there is any difficulty we may have to place the financial burden on you, as indicated in my last letter.

Please let me know if this plan meets with your approval or if you would care to change the number of reprints. I am sorry to make this simple matter so complicated.

Sincerely yours,

B. Davis
Bernard D. Davis

BDD/hl (enc.)